

# ST AGNES<sup>†</sup>

## ANGLICAN CHURCH

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

Saint Agnes' Glen Huntly is a welcoming and hospitable faith community, celebrating God's compassion and love for all. As an Anglo-Catholic church, our faith, worship and community life finds its ultimate expression in encounter with the Risen Christ in Scripture and Sacrament. Together we are committed to growing in spirituality and service as disciples of Jesus, glorifying God and serving our local community.

You can find out more about us at [www.saintagnes.org.au](http://www.saintagnes.org.au).

#### The Anglican Parish of Saint John & Saint Agnes

114 Booran Road Glen Huntly VIC 3163  
03 9571 6616  
[secretary@saintjohns.org.au](mailto:secretary@saintjohns.org.au)

#### REGULAR SERVICES

##### Sunday

8:00am: Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Choral Eucharist (Saint John's)  
9:30am: Sung Eucharist (Saint Agnes')  
6:00pm: Choral Evensong  
(Saint John's, First Sunday)  
6:00pm: Evensong & Benediction  
(Saint John's, Third Sunday)

##### Weekday Eucharists

10:00am: Tuesday (Saint Agnes')  
10:15am: Friday (Saint John's)

#### Vicar

Fr. Alex Ross  
0431 308 703  
[vicar@saintagnes.org.au](mailto:vicar@saintagnes.org.au)  
(Day-Off: Monday)

#### Associate Clergy

Fr Marc Billimoria  
Fr Ken Hewlett  
Archdeacon Colleen O'Reilly  
Fr Luke Hopkins

#### Churchwardens

John Hooper 0416 185 005  
Jane Fyfield 0412 543 545  
Robert Buckmaster 0437 014 090

#### Director of Music

Rowan Swarbrick 0401 268 269

*We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this place and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all and on which we worship the God of all Reconciliation and Hope*

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*Text marked with  is sung to the Mass Setting by Michael Dudman. The symbol  indicates where the Sign of the Cross is customarily made. Please stand when the bells are rung.*

## OPENING HYMN

1. Christ is our cornerstone,  
on whom alone we build;  
with his true saints alone  
the courts of heaven are filled:  
on his great love  
our hopes we place  
of present grace  
and joys above.
2. With psalms and hymns of praise  
this holy place shall ring;  
our voices we will raise  
the Three in One to sing,  
and thus proclaim  
in joyful song  
both loud and long  
that glorious name.
3. Here, gracious God, draw near  
and move among us now;  
receive each fervent prayer,  
accept each faithful vow,  
and more and more  
on all who pray  
each holy day  
your blessings pour.
4. Here may we gain from heaven  
the grace which we implore;

and may that grace, once given,  
be with us evermore,  
until that day  
when all the blest  
to endless rest  
are called away.

*From Urbs beata Hierusalem, anon., Latin c. 7th cent.  
tr. John Chandler 1806-76 alt.  
TIS 433*

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Let us pray.

*Silence is held as we gather our hearts and minds into the presence of God*

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ Jesus said ‘This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

♪ Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:  
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

♪ Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
*Here it is customary to bow for the duration of the words 'receive our prayer'*  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ, *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the ✠ glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE COLLECT

Everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Acts

[7.55-60]

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

[31:1-5, 17-18]

To you, Lord, have I come for shelter:

let me never be put to shame.

**O deliver me in your righteousness:**

**incline your ear to me and be swift to save me.**

Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me:

for you are my high rock and my stronghold.

**Lead me and guide me for your name's sake:  
bring me out of the net that they have secretly laid for me,  
for you are my strength.**

Into your hands I commit my spirit:  
you will redeem me, O Lord God of truth.

**All my days are in your hand:  
O deliver me from the power of my enemies  
and from my persecutors.**

Make your face to shine upon your servant:  
and save me for your mercy's sake.

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

[2.11-25]

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honour everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honour the emperor.

Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand. A Gradual hymn is sung*

## GRADUAL HYMN

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
  
2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father, thy child let me be;  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
  
4. Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise,  
thou my inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only the first in my heart;  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
  
5. High King of heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

*Gaelic c. 8<sup>th</sup> cent.*  
*tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1880-1931*  
*versified by Eleanor Henrietta Hull 1860-1935 alt*  
TIS 547

*Please turn to face the Book of the Gospels.*

## GOSPEL

Alleluia, **alleluia.**

‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life,’ says the Lord. ‘No one comes to the Father except through me.’

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

[14:1-14]

*Here it is customary to trace three small crosses on the forehead, lips and heart*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so

that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*The Sermon is followed by a time of silence and a musical reflection.*

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Let us together stand to affirm the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God,**  
the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We believe in one Lord,**  
**Jesus Christ,** *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation**  
he came down from heaven,

*Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until ‘...became truly human’*  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  
he suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again**  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge**  
the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped *here it is customary to make a slight bow*  
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the ✠ resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*Prayers are offered for the Church and for the world. Each petition ends with...*

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

*The final petition for all the faithful departed ends...*

Rest ✠ eternal grant to them, O Lord:  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**  
May they rest in peace:  
**and rise in glory.**

*The prayers of intercession may conclude with this final prayer, after which all stand*

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.  
**Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All stand.*

## GREETING OF PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*We greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*A collection is taken to support the life and mission of the parish.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
great David's greater Son;  
hail, in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to let the captive free,  
and take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with help and mercy  
to those who suffer wrong,  
to raise the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong,  
to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls condemned and dying  
were precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth,  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth;  
before him on the mountains  
shall peace the herald go,  
and righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.

4. Kings shall fall down before him,  
and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore him,  
his praise all people sing;  
to him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.

5. O'er every foe victorious,  
he on his throne shall rest,  
from age to age more glorious,  
all blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand for ever,  
that name to us is love.

*James Montgomery 1771-1854 alt*  
*TIS 275*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The priest continues in thanksgiving...*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord,** *here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist*  
**God of power and might,**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
♪ **Blessed ✠ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest continues with the prayer of consecration...*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

♪ **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues...*

... we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

♪ **Blessing and honour and glory and power**  
**are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

♪ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and**  
**forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the**  
**time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the**  
**glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body:  
**For we all share in the one bread.**

*A period of deep silence is held with silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The priest breaks the bread while the Agnus Dei is sung*

**♩ O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*All baptised Christians who seek Christ in this sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion. Anyone is welcome to receive a blessing instead.*

*Notices may be given here, after which please stand.*

*The priest prays the post-communion prayer, followed by*

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.**

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*The priest pronounces the blessing*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight; *here it is customary to bow, or genuflect on the left knee* and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia:  
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## CLOSING HYMN

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
and drives away our fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole  
and calms the trouble breast,  
is manna to the hungry soul  
and to the weary rest.
3. Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treasury, filled  
with boundless stores of grace:
4. Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend,  
my prophet, priest and king,  
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
accept the praise I bring.

*John Newton 1725-1807 alt  
TIS 223*

*The organist plays the Postlude.*

*Please join us for Morning Tea.*

## NEWS & NOTICES

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### VICAR ON LEAVE 23 APRIL TO 5 MAY INCLUSIVE

Please note that the Vicar will be on leave from Thursday 23 April until Tuesday 5 May, inclusive. Archdeacon Colleen O'Reilly will be at Saint John's Finch Street on Sunday 3 May. Fr Marc will officiate at Choral Evensong on Sunday 3 May and can be contacted for any pastoral emergencies.



**SINGULARITY**  
presents  
**GILBERT & SULLIVAN**  
**PATIENCE**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2pm**  
**Saint John's Anglican Church**  
**5 Finch Street, East Malvern**

**Tickets \$30 with all proceeds supporting  
our mission and ministry**  
**Tickets available to book online**  
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**or at the door**



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perform for charity.  
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by Coonara Community  
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